6. Scrapping of Operational and Maintenance Contract (O&M) given to the contractors of filmsy grounds.

7. Immediate implementation of merger of 50% DA in Basis Pay *w.e.f.* 1.4.2005.

8. The discrimination and disparity with the unionized category in distribution of additional annual incentive (Profit Sharing) should be immediately removed by evolving a new distribution formula.

(c) 14 meeting have been held with representatives of the recognized unions on various dates to discuss the issues of common interest.

(d) (i) Issue within the purview of the management of ONGC have been addressed as discussed with the recognized unions from time to time.

(ii) The issue of merger of 50% D.A. is to be decided by the Govt. of India for all Central PSUs following the Industrial DA pattern.

(iii) The demand for regularizaiton of tenure based employees raised by the ONGC Employees Mazdoor Sabha, Vadodra is pending before the Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal, Ahmedabad in ID No. 1476/2004.

Employment of term/tenure based workers in ONGC

812. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the term/tenure based workers were employed in the ONGC prior to the amendment of 'Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Central Rules, 1946';

(b) if so, the number of such employees in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Assam; and

(c) what action is taken by the Department or the Ministry for the demand of the above employees who have completed mroe than four years and are allowed to continue on their respective jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of persons engaged prior to the amendment of Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Central Rule, 1946 is as under:

Gujarat	-	577	
Maharashtra	-	83	
Assam	-	07	
TOTAL:		-	667

(c) Tenure based engagement was initially for 4 years. On completion of the initial tenure, the personnel meeting the job requirement and eligibility criteria were re-engaged for a fresh term of another 4 years.

Revision of gas prices

†813. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of gas have been revised several times in the country during the last two years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.